

AMENDMENT

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 3, 9, 13, and 20 without prejudice.

Please amend claims 1, 2, 4-8, 10-12, 14-19, and 21-32, as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

broadcasting meta-data to ~~one or more~~ a plurality of client systems, the meta-data including ~~descriptions of~~ sets of descriptors and/or attributes describing respective pieces of broadcast programming content ~~corresponding to respective data files from~~ among a plurality of data files pieces of broadcast programming content up for consideration ~~for~~ to be included in a future, yet to be scheduled, broadcast;

processing the meta-data at each of ~~the one or more~~ at least a portion of the plurality of client systems to generate a content-rating interface at that client system via which content ratings corresponding to the plurality of ~~data files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content may be obtained;

obtaining content ratings for respective ~~data files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content via the content-rating interface;

receiving content ratings for the plurality of ~~data files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content from the ~~one or more~~ plurality of client systems; and

broadcasting a selected portion of the plurality of ~~data files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content to the ~~one or more~~ plurality of client systems during the future broadcast, the selected portion of the plurality pieces of broadcast programming content selected in response to the content ratings received from the ~~one or more~~ plurality of client systems.

2. (Currently Amended)) The method of claim 1 wherein the selected portion of the plurality of ~~data files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content that are broadcast are ~~data files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content having higher content ratings

than a remaining portion of ~~data-files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content that are not selected for broadcast.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising broadcasting a broadcast schedule of the selected portion of the plurality of ~~data-files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content prior to broadcasting the selected portion of the plurality of ~~data-files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising broadcasting a broadcast schedule of the meta-data prior to broadcasting the meta-data to the ~~one or more~~ plurality of client systems.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein broadcasting the selected portion of the plurality of ~~data-files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content to the ~~one or more~~ plurality of client systems comprises broadcasting one of the plurality of ~~data-files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content having a higher rating prior to broadcasting one of the plurality of ~~data-files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content having a lower rating.

7. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

receiving, at a client system, meta-data broadcast by a ~~server~~ broadcast system, the meta-data including ~~descriptions of~~ sets of descriptors and/or attributes describing respective pieces of broadcast programming content ~~corresponding to respective data files~~ from among a first plurality of ~~data-files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content up for consideration ~~for~~ to be included in a future, yet to be scheduled, broadcast;

obtaining ratings via a content rating table for at least one of the first plurality of ~~data files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content described by the meta-data, the content rating table generated using the meta-data and containing ratings derived from observation of ~~data files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content having similar descriptors and/or attributes to the descriptors and/or attributes included in the meta-data that have been previously accessed via the client system;

transmitting the ratings of the at least one of the first plurality of ~~data files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content to the ~~server~~ broadcast system; and

receiving a second plurality of ~~data files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content broadcast by the ~~server~~ broadcast system during the future broadcast, the second plurality of pieces of broadcasting programming content including at least a portion of the first plurality of pieces of broadcasting programming content.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7 further comprising:

receiving a meta-data broadcast schedule broadcast by the ~~server~~ broadcast system; and

activating the client system in response to the meta-data broadcast schedule to receive the meta-data when it is broadcast by the broadcast system.

9. (Cancelled) .

10. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

receiving, at a client system, meta-data broadcast by a ~~server~~ broadcast system, the meta-data including ~~descriptions of~~ sets of descriptors and/or attributes describing respective pieces of broadcast programming content from among a first plurality of ~~data files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content up for consideration ~~for~~ to be included in a future, yet to be scheduled, broadcast;

rating₁ in response to a content rating table₁ at least one of the first plurality of ~~data files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content described by the meta-data, the content rating table generated using the meta-data and containing ratings derived from observation of ~~data files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content having similar descriptors and/or attributes to the descriptors and/or attributes included in the meta-data that have been previously accessed via the ~~apparatus~~ client system;

transmitting the ratings of the at least one of the first plurality of ~~data files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content to the server system;

receiving a broadcast schedule of a second plurality of ~~data files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content to be broadcast by the server broadcast system during the future broadcast, the second plurality of pieces of broadcasting programming content including at least a portion of the first plurality of pieces of broadcasting programming content; and

selectively receiving, based on the content rating table, a portion of the second plurality of ~~data files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content broadcast by the ~~server broadcast system during the future broadcast~~.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10 further comprising:

receiving a meta-data broadcast schedule broadcast by the ~~server~~ broadcast system; and

activating the client system in response to the meta-data broadcast schedule to receive the meta-data when it is broadcast by the broadcast system.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10 further comprising receiving a broadcast schedule of the second plurality of ~~data files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content prior to selectively receiving the portion of the second plurality of ~~data files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:

a processor having circuitry to execute instructions;

a communications interface coupled to the processor, the communications interface coupled to broadcast data to ~~one or more~~ a plurality of client systems, the communications interface further coupled to receive data from the ~~one or more~~ plurality of client systems;

a storage device coupled to the processor, having sequences of instructions stored therein, which when executed by the processor cause the processor to

broadcast meta-data to ~~one or more~~ the plurality of client systems, the meta-data including ~~descriptions of~~ sets of descriptors and/or attributes describing respective pieces of broadcast programming content ~~corresponding to respective data files~~ from among a plurality of ~~data files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content up for consideration ~~for~~ to be included in a future, yet to be scheduled, broadcast;

receive content ratings for the plurality of ~~data files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content from the ~~one or more~~ plurality of client systems, the content ratings for each ~~data files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content being identified by corresponding meta-data; and

broadcast a selected portion of the plurality of ~~data files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content to the ~~one or more~~ plurality of client systems during the future broadcast in response to the ratings received from the ~~one or more~~ plurality of client systems.

15. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 14 wherein the selected portion of the plurality of ~~data files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content that are

broadcast are ~~data files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content having higher content ratings than a remaining portion of ~~data files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content that are not selected for broadcast.

16. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 14 wherein the processor is further caused to broadcast a broadcast schedule of the portion of the plurality of ~~data files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content prior to broadcasting the portion of the plurality of ~~data files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content.

17. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 14 wherein the processor is further caused to broadcast a broadcast schedule of the meta-data prior to broadcasting the meta-data to the ~~one or more~~ plurality of client systems.

18. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:
a processor having circuitry to execute instructions;
a communications interface coupled to the processor, the communications interface coupled receive data broadcast from a ~~server~~ broadcast system, the communications interface further coupled to transmit data to the ~~server~~ broadcast system;
a storage device coupled to the processor, having sequences of instructions stored therein, which when executed by the processor cause the processor to receive meta-data broadcast by a ~~server~~ broadcast system, the meta-data including ~~descriptions of~~ sets of descriptors and/or attributes describing respective pieces of broadcast programming content from among a first plurality of data files pieces of broadcast programming content up for consideration ~~for~~ to be included in a future, yet to be scheduled, broadcast;

rate, in response to a content rating table, at least one of the first plurality of ~~data files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content described by the meta-data, the content rating table generated using the meta-data and containing ratings derived from observation of ~~data files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content having similar descriptors and/or attributes to the descriptors and/or attributes included in the meta-data that have been previously accessed via the apparatus;

transmit the ratings of the at least one of the first plurality of ~~data files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content to the ~~server~~ broadcast system;

receive a second plurality of ~~data files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content broadcast by the ~~server~~ broadcast system during the future broadcast, the second plurality of pieces of broadcasting programming content including at least a portion of the first plurality of pieces of broadcasting programming content; and

store, based on the content rating table, one or more of the second plurality of ~~data files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content broadcast by the ~~server~~ broadcast system.

19. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 18 wherein the processor is further caused to:

receive a meta-data broadcast schedule broadcast by the ~~server~~ broadcast system; and

activate the client system in response to the meta-data broadcast schedule to receive the meta-data when it is broadcast by the broadcast system.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

a processor having circuitry to execute instructions;

a communications interface coupled to the processor, the communications interface coupled receive data broadcast from a ~~server~~ broadcast system, the communications interface further coupled to transmit data to the ~~server~~ broadcast system;

a storage device coupled to the processor, having sequences of instructions stored therein, which when executed by the processor cause the processor to receive meta-data broadcast by a ~~server~~ broadcast system, the meta-data including ~~descriptions of content corresponding to respective data files~~ sets of descriptors and/or attributes describing respective pieces of broadcast programming content from among a first plurality of ~~data files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content up for consideration ~~for~~ to be included in a future, yet to be scheduled, broadcast

rate, in response to a content rating table, at least one of the first plurality of ~~data files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content described by the meta-data, the content rating table generated using the meta-data and containing ratings derived from observation of ~~data files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content having similar descriptors and/or attributes to the descriptors and/or attributes included in the meta-data that have been previously accessed via the apparatus;

transmit the ratings of the at least one of the first plurality of ~~data files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content to the ~~server~~ broadcast system;

receive a broadcast schedule of a second plurality of ~~data files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content to be broadcast by the ~~server~~ broadcast system during the future broadcast, the second plurality of pieces of broadcasting programming content including at least a portion of the first plurality of pieces of broadcasting programming content;

selectively receive, based on the content rating table, a portion of the second plurality of ~~data-files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content broadcast by the ~~server~~ broadcast system; and

store the portion of the second plurality of ~~data-files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content broadcast by the ~~server~~ broadcast system.

22. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 21 wherein the processor is further caused to:

receive a meta-data broadcast schedule broadcast by the ~~server~~ broadcast system; and

activate the client system in response to the meta-data broadcast schedule to receive the meta-data when it is broadcast by the broadcast system.

23. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 21 wherein the processor is further caused to receive a broadcast schedule of the second plurality of ~~data-files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content prior to selectively receiving the portion of the second plurality of ~~data-files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content.

24. (Currently Amended) A machine-readable medium having instructions stored thereon, which when executed by a processor cause the processor to

broadcast meta-data to ~~one or more~~ a plurality of client systems, the meta-data including ~~descriptions of~~ sets of descriptors and/or attributes describing respective pieces of broadcast programming content ~~corresponding to respective data-files~~ from among a plurality of ~~data-files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content up for consideration ~~for~~ to be included in a future, yet to be scheduled, broadcast;

receive content ratings for the plurality of ~~data-files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content from at least a portion of the ~~one or more~~ plurality of client

systems, the content ratings for each ~~data-files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content being identified by corresponding meta-data; and

broadcast a selected portion of the plurality of ~~data-files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content to the ~~one or more~~ plurality of client systems during the future broadcast in response to the ratings received from the one or more client systems.

25. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable medium of claim 24 wherein the selected portion of the plurality of ~~data-files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content that are broadcast during the future broadcast are ~~data-files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content having higher content ratings than a remaining portion of ~~data-files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content that is not selected for broadcast.

26. (Currently Amended) A machine-readable medium having instructions stored thereon, which when executed by a processor cause the processor to receive meta-data broadcast by a ~~server~~ broadcast system, the meta-data including ~~descriptions of content corresponding to respective data-files~~ sets of descriptors and/or attributes describing respective pieces of broadcast programming content from among a first plurality of ~~data-files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content up for consideration ~~for~~ to be included in a future, yet to be scheduled, broadcast;

rate, in response to a content rating table, at least one of the first plurality of ~~data files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content described by the meta-data, the content rating table generated using the meta-data and containing ratings derived from observation of ~~data-files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content having similar descriptors and/or attributes to the descriptors and/or attributes included in the meta-data that have been previously accessed via a client system containing the processor;

transmit the ratings of the at least one of the first plurality of ~~data-files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content to the ~~server~~ broadcast system;

receive a second plurality of ~~data-files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content broadcast by the server system during the future broadcast, the second plurality of pieces of broadcasting programming content including at least a portion of the first plurality of pieces of broadcasting programming content; and

store, based on the content rating table, one or more of the second plurality of ~~data-files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content broadcast by the ~~server~~ broadcast system.

27. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable medium of claim 26 wherein the ~~process~~ processor is further caused to:

receive a meta-data broadcast schedule broadcast by the ~~server~~ broadcast system; and

activate a client system containing the processor in response to the meta-data broadcast schedule to receive the meta-data when it is broadcast by the broadcast system.

28. (Currently Amended) A system, comprising:

a broadcast ~~server~~ system; and

one or more client systems coupled to the broadcast ~~server~~ system;

wherein the broadcast ~~server~~ system is coupled to broadcast meta-data to ~~one or more~~ a plurality of client systems, the meta-data including ~~descriptions of sets of~~ descriptors and/or attributes describing respective pieces of broadcast programming content corresponding to respective data-files from among a plurality of ~~data-files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content up for consideration for to be included in a future, yet to be scheduled, broadcast;

wherein the ~~one or more~~ plurality of client systems are coupled to rate in response to a content rating table one or more of the plurality of ~~data files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content described by the meta-data, the content rating table generated using the meta-data and containing ratings derived from observation of ~~data files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content having similar descriptors and/or attributes to the descriptors and/or attributes included in the meta-data that have been previously accessed via that client system;

wherein the one or more client systems are coupled to transmit to the broadcast ~~server system~~ the ratings of the plurality of data files pieces of broadcast programming content;

wherein the broadcast system is coupled to select a portion of the plurality of the ~~data files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content in response to the ratings received from the ~~one or more~~ plurality of client systems; and

wherein the broadcast system is further coupled to broadcast the selected portion of the plurality of ~~data files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content.

29. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 28 wherein each one of the ~~one or more~~ plurality of client systems ~~are~~ is coupled to selectively store a portion of the selected portion of the plurality of ~~data files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content in response to a content rating table associated with each respective one of the plurality of client systems.

30. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 28 wherein each one of the ~~one or more~~ plurality of client systems ~~are~~ is coupled to selectively receive a portion of the selected portion of the plurality of ~~data files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content in response to a content rating table associated with each respective one of the plurality of client systems.

31. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7 further comprising storing, based on the content rating table, a portion of the second plurality of ~~data files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content broadcast by the ~~server~~ broadcast system.

32. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10 further comprising storing the portion of the second plurality of ~~data files~~ pieces of broadcast programming content broadcast by the ~~server~~ broadcast system.